



Montgomery County Council

From the Office of Councilmember Howard Denis

For Immediate Release

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Denis: County Must Act Quickly To Close Gaps in Voting System Security

"I am deeply troubled by the latest information about our touch-screen computer voting system. As reported, it has been determined by an independent computer security firm hired by the State of Maryland that hackers could exploit weaknesses in the system, thereby determining the result of a future election.

"With a presidential primary looming on March 2, this is a serious problem which goes to the basic integrity of any election result in Montgomery County -- and anywhere else in Maryland where the system is employed.

"Regrettably, the nearly foolproof punch card machines which served us so well in Montgomery County have been sold. Efforts to restore a paper trail are now underway and warrant serious consideration.

"Montgomery County has always prided itself on verifiable results. We need to work quickly to bring together the experts and correct the problems that have been identified. Montgomery County voters need to be confident that, when they go to the polls, their votes will be counted and vote tallies will be accurate."

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